

# NEWS RELEASE



**STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**Department of Industrial**  
**Relations**  
**News For Immediate Release**  
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## **Public Service Announcement**

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, October 4, 2004 . . . . . Self-employed persons, including many small business owners, may be qualified to receive unemployment compensation benefits under the Disaster Unemployment Assistance program. If employment has been lost or interrupted as a direct result of Hurricane Ivan, and if you live or work in one of the 53 declared disaster area counties, then you may file a claim by dialing the toll-free number 866/234-5382. Self-employed persons will be requested to provide a copy of their 2003 income tax records.

A fact sheet of question and answers for employers is available at our Web site: <http://dir.alabama.gov>. Just click on the text "Disaster Unemployment Assistance from Hurricane Ivan" and follow the prompts. Employers with further questions, or in need of individual assistance, may call 334/353-0888.

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Industrial Relations is an umbrella organization of State government which administers: the State Employment Service, Unemployment Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and Labor Market Information. Smaller programs also administered include Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation, Mine Safety and Inspection, and Surface Mining of Non-Fuel Minerals. For more information on DIR visit the Web site: [www.dir.alabama.gov](http://www.dir.alabama.gov).